

10/594655

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DOCKET NO. MC1-8354

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Applicant: Irvine, et al.  
Serial No.:  
Filed: herewith  
For: *Steam Electrolysis*  
Art Unit:  
Examiner:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed foreign patent document and other publication is enclosed. No U.S. Patents nor any published U.S. Patent Applications are enclosed.

Regarding any document, publication or other information for which a date is not given on the attached PTO-1449, Applicant(s) believe(s) the same may qualify as "prior" art to this application and should be treated accordingly, although Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to contest the prior art status of any document, publication or information, should issue arise.

2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth in the following document(s):

(a)  Copy of each English language version of a search report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office of each document being submitted from the search report.

(b)  Attachment entitled "Concise Explanation of Relevance of Non-English Language Documents".

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

(a)  Within 3 months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.

(b)  Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. If this Statement is not filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, the required certification is given below or, in the absence thereof, the Office is authorized to charge the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090 for consideration of this Statement.

(c)  After the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance.

- (1)  The required certification is given below, or
- (2)  Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or
- (3)  Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

(d)  After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Petition hereby is made for consideration of this Statement and the required certification is indicated below.

- (1)  Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i)(1), or
- (2)  Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i)(1) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

4. Certification (if applicable)

(a)  The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

(b)  The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully Submitted,

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL, & TUMMINO L.L.P.

By:   
 Christopher P. Harris  
 Reg. No. 43,660

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 26294

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL & TUMMINO LLP  
 1300 East Ninth Street, Suite 1700  
 Cleveland, Ohio 44114  
 (216) 621.2234

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	John Thomas Sirr Irvine
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	MC1-8354

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>2</sup>
		Country Code-Number-Kind Code (If Known)				
		EP 0 472 922 A	03-04-1992	Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft Zur Foerderung Der Angewandten Forschung E.V.	Col. 5, line 21-col. 7, line 33	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
		International Search Report for corres. PCT/GB2005/001169 completed 19 July 2005 by G. Hammerstein of the EPO	
		IWAHARA H: "Technological Challenges in the Application of Proton Conducting Ceramics"; Solid State Ionics, North Holland Pub. Company, Amsterdam, NL, vol. 77, April 1995 (1995-04), pages 289-298, XP004050460, ISSN: 0167-2738; paragraph 03.5	
		SCHNELLER, T ET AL: "Chemical Solution Deposition Prepared Dense Proton Conducting Y-Doped BaZrO <sub>3</sub> Thin Films for SCFC and Sensor Devices"; Solid State Ionics, North Holland Pub. Company, Amsterdam, NL, vol. 164, no. 3-4, November 2003 (2003-11), pages 131-136, XP004473999, ISSN: 0167-2738; page 131, left-hand column, line 1-page 131, right-hand column, line 5	
		IWAHARA H. ET AL: "Proton Conduction in Sintered Oxides Based on BACE03"; Journal of the Electrochemical Society, Electrochemical Society, Manchester, NH, US, vol. 135, no. 2, Feb. 1, 1988 (1998-02-01), pages 529-533, XP000073186, ISSN: 0013-4651, "Experimental"; abstract	
		VALKENBERG S ET AL: "The Electrical Conductivity of the High Temperature Proton Conductor Ba <sub>3</sub> Ca <sub>1.8</sub> Nb <sub>1.82</sub> O <sub>9-delta</sub> "; Solid State Ionics, North Holland Pub. Company, Amsterdam, NL, vol. 97, no. 1-4, 1 May 1997 (1997-05-01), pages 511-515, XP004126222, ISSN: 0167-2738; page 511, left-hand column, line 1-page 512, left-hand column, line 13	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.